

In the Claims

The following is an amendment to and a complete listing of the claims which replaces all prior listings of claims in this application.

1. (Currently amended) A guide support for a bending machine (1) comprising a framework (2), a bending head (3), a bending arm (4), a bending roller (9), a clamping jaw (12) for the bending of a tube [(5)], [[and]] sliding means (15, 16) for the displacement of the bending head (3) in horizontal and vertical directions with respect to the framework (2), ~~characterized in that it comprises~~ at least two guides (28, 29) [[whose]] carried on a guide element (21) and including recesses (30, 31) [[are]] arranged in opposite directions with respect to the position of the tube [(5)], ~~for bending and of the guiding and displacement means (18, 19, 23, 24) [[of]] for the guides (28, 29) the guide element (21) on the bending head (3), the guide element (21) being guided in a horizontal translation motion on a plate (17) securely fastened to the bending head (3), the guiding means (18, 19, 23, 24) being positioned adjacent a first surface (22) of the element (21), and the at least two guides (28, 29) being arranged parallel to each other adjacent a second, opposite surface (25) of the element (21).~~

2. (currently amended) A guide support in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that it comprises an~~ wherein the guide element (21) ~~guided in a horizontal translation motion on a plate~~ (17) ~~securely fastened to the bending head (3) and comprising on the opposite side of the guiding means (18, 19, 23, 24)~~ includes rails (26, 27) on the second opposite surface (25), each of which interacts with each of the at least two guides (28, 29) arranged parallel to each other.

3. (cancelled).

4. (currently amended) A guide support in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the guide (28) ~~comprises~~ includes a recess (30) [[whose]] having an internal profile ~~depends on that of~~ corresponding to an outer profile of the tube [[(5)]] for holding the tube as the tube is to be held during its bending between [[the]] jaws (10, 13) of the clamping jaw (12).

5. (currently amended) A guide support in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the guide (29) +28) ~~comprises~~ includes a recess (31) [[whose]] having an internal profile ~~depends on that of~~ corresponding to an outer profile of the tube [[(5)]] for holding the tube as the tube is to be held during its

bending between [[the]] jaws (11, 14) of the clamping jaw (12).

6. (currently amended) A guide support in accordance with claim [[3]] 2, characterized in that wherein each of the guides (28, 29) interacts with the rails (26, 27) [[in]] such ~~a~~ fashion that their representative recess (30, 31) is positioned in [[the]] opposite directions with respect to [[the]] a horizontal axis of [[the]] a machine (1) embodied by the tube [[(5)]].

7. (currently amended) A guide support in accordance with claim 1, ~~characterized in that the~~ wherein inverted positions of the guides (28, 29) ~~allows the~~ allow carrying out on the same bending machine (1) either a bending to the left, or counterclockwise, or to the right, or clockwise on a single bending machine (1).